

REPORTING OF DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

I. Definitions as used in these regulations:

- A. "Elder" means anyone residing in the state, 65 years of age or older.
- B. "Dependent adult" means a person between the age of 18 and 64 years of age who has physical or mental limitations, including physical or developmental disabilities, which restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights.
- C. "Abuse of dependent adult" means physical abuse (assault or battery), sexual abuse, neglect (including failure to assist in personal hygiene and provide food, clothing, shelter or medical care for physical and mental needs), intimidation, cruel punishment, fiduciary abuse (appropriation of money or property for purposes not in the due or lawful execution of the fiduciary's trust) or other treatment with resulting physical harm or pain or mental suffering, or the deprivation by a care custodian of goods or services which are necessary to avoid physical harm or mental suffering.
- D. "Care custodian" means an administrator or employee, including members of the support and maintenance staffs, of any public or private educational institution which serves elders or dependent adults, or of a regional center for persons with developmental disabilities. Care custodian does not include employees who do not work directly with elders or dependent adults as part of their official duties.
- E. "Adult protective services agency" means a county welfare or social services department.
- F. "Reasonable suspicion" means that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain such a suspicion based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing when appropriate on his or her training and experience, to suspect abuse.

II. Procedures for Reporting Abuse

A. When Reporting Duties Arise

1. Any administrator or employee who, while in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of employment, either has observed an incident that reasonably appears to be physical abuse, has observed a physical injury where the nature of the injury, its location on the body, or the repetition of the injury, clearly indicates that physical abuse has occurred, or is told by an elder or dependent adult that he or she has experienced behavior constituting physical abuse, shall report the known or suspected instance of physical abuse as indicated in Section B on the following page.
2. Any administrator or employee who has knowledge of or reasonably suspects that types of abuse other than physical abuse have been inflicted upon a dependent adult

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or that his or her emotional well-being is endangered in any other way, may report such known or suspected instance of abuse as indicated in Section B below.

B. How to Make a Report

1. A telephone report shall be made immediately or as soon as it is possible. These reports shall be made to either the School Resource Officer (SRO) or to the Orange County or Los Angeles County Social Services Agency, Adult Abuse Registry (depending on where the dependent adult lives) or to a local law enforcement agency.
 - a. School Resource Officer (SRO): Employee must speak with the SRO personally, leaving a phone or email message is not sufficient.

Buena Park High School	(714) 992-8737
Fullerton Union High School	(714) 626-3909
La Habra High School	(562) 266-5071
La Vista/La Sierra High Schools	(714) 447-5533
Sonora High School	(562) 266-2009
Sunny Hills High School	(714) 626-4253
Troy High School	(714) 626-4488
 - b. Orange County Adult Abuse Registry
(714) 940-1000
 - c. Los Angeles County Adult Abuse Registry
(800) 540-4000
2. The reports shall provide the following information:
 - a. The name of the person making the report;
 - b. The name and age of the elder or dependent adult;
 - c. The present location of the elder or dependent adult;
 - d. The names and addresses of family members or any other person responsible for the care of the elder or dependent adult's care, if known;
 - e. the nature and extent of the person's condition;
 - f. Any information that led person to suspect that abuse has occurred;
 - g. The date of the incident; and
 - h. Any other information requested by the adult protective services agency.

- C. Reporting duties under the Welfare and Institutions Code are individual. When two or more persons jointly have knowledge of a known or suspected instance of elder or dependent adult abuse, each must make the required reports unless there is an agreement among them that one will make the report on behalf of all persons required to report. If the employee has knowledge that the employee who agreed to call and file the report has not done so, he or she shall make the report him or herself.

III. Acknowledgement of Duty to Report

Elder or dependent adult abuse reports required by Section 15630 of the Welfare and Institutions Code shall be confidential and may not be disclosed except as provided by law.

Any person entering District employment on or after January 1, 1986, as a care custodian, prior to commencing employment and as a prerequisite to that employment, shall sign a statement or form to the effect that the person has knowledge of the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code Section 15630 and will comply with its provisions.

Reference: Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 15600-15637

Regulation approved: December 21, 1988; April 2, 2012